Monitoring Committee for Functioning of FCI Godowns

† 1235. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a monitoring Committee exclusively for streamlining foodgrain storage and godowns of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There already exists an in-built system of monitoring storage of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India (FCI). Regular inspections are undertaken by the Zonal Managers/Senior Regional Managers and Quality Control Officers. Other aspects of storage management like capacity utilization, quality control, maintenance etc. are also monitored. The operations are reviewed and monitored every month in the Performance Review meetings at the Headquarters of FCI.

Corruption case against former Cabinet Secretary

1236. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI has registered a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act, against a former Cabinet Secretary in wheat import scam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for registering the case after four years?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) After conclusion of the preliminary enquiry dated 4th August, 1998 into the matter relating to import of 15 lakh MTs of wheat from the Australian Wheat Board during 1997-98, CBI has registered a regular case no. RC 62(A)/ 2001-DLIon 11.09.2001.

Special PDS facilities to BPL population in Jharkhand

1237. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the number of persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in Jharkhand for the purpose of coverage under the special PDS scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether cent per cent BPL population in the State has since been issued Special Ration Cards;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to take remedial measures to ensure special PDS facilities to cent per cent BPL population in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) As reported by the State Government, the identification of families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in the State of Jharkhand for the pu»pose of coverage under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was done during 1996. About 97% of identified BPL families were given special cards (Red Cards) during the year 1997 and 1998. Only about 3% of the identified families were found not fit at the time of distribution of red cards. The district-wise number of identified BPL families is given in the statement (See below).

(e) State Government has directed all the Collectors to verify the eligibility of the existing red card holders and cancel the cards of ineligible families as also to grant red cards to all the eligible families in order to enable them to avail PDS facilities.